

The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
BY MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, IN ADVANCE.

Weekly, 1 year	\$1 50
" 6 months	1 00
Daily, 1 year	3 00
" 6 months	2 00
per " "	0 50

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TUESDAY, - - - AUGUST 20, 1895

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UNDOUBTEDLY INCORRECT.

Under the head of "An Incident of Rev. O. D. Taylor's Arrest," the Oregonian prints the following:

Several days ago, Parker Owens, a sergeant of police from Saginaw, Mich., arrived in Salem for the purpose of securing requisition papers for the arrest of Rev. O. D. Taylor, a Baptist minister at The Dalles. The story of the arrest and the sensation it caused at The Dalles has been fully told in The Oregonian; but there is one part of the telegraphic account of the arrest that can now be explained. It was stated that the Michigan officer was in great haste to get away from The Dalles, and that he drove off in a buggy with his prisoner, fearful of habeas corpus proceedings. It was no such fear that really alarmed the Michigan sleuth-hound. He had no requisition papers for his prisoner. He secured them all right from Governor Lord, and after Private Secretary Dunaway had safely sealed and delivered them to him, as he thought, Owens started for The Dalles. Instead of putting the papers in his pocket, he laid them on a table and went out of the statehouse. The papers were found the next day, and sent to Chief Minto of this city for delivery to Owens, but the latter, during his stay in Oregon, never called on an officer to make himself known. When he reached The Dalles he must have discovered his loss, but not wanting to wait, he successfully ran a bluff and got his prisoner out of the state.

The writer of the above has either been wrongly informed, or Owens executed a clever deception. The requisition papers, signed by Governor Lord and Secretary Kincaid, were duly presented to Mr. Kelly, the deputy sheriff, and by him carefully scrutinized before serving the process. The same papers were afterward read in the presence of Mr. Taylor. While it is true there are some features connected with the manner of Mr. Taylor's arrest that will not appeal to the commendation of an unprejudiced mind, yet the lack of requisition papers was not one of these.

The possible explanation to the matter is that since Mr. Owens had three sets of requisition papers made, one of them may have been left upon the table, as reported; but the others, or one of them at least, Owens brought with him, and this one was seen by the gentlemen mentioned and others in the city.

So much would not be now written concerning the matter if it were not for the fear that should it be left uncorrected Mr. Kelly's action in making the arrest might be criticised. The deputy sheriff acted with proper authority, and did exactly what the requisition papers, which he held in his hand, called upon him to do.

THE DENVER DISASTER.

The terrible disaster, by which the Gunny hotel was yesterday blown into a heap of debris and converted into a horrible crematory, by the explosion of a boiler, causes every traveler to shudder. Yet, when we think of it, we wonder that such things are not more frequent. A sudden fire in the night within most any hotel, or the explosion of a boiler—and most modern hotels have a boiler from necessity—brings about appalling loss of life.

There should be in every state the strictest inspection of every hotel in respect to its fire apparatus and escapes, its machinery and elevators, at frequent intervals. In this state there is nothing of the kind done, and no doubt every hotel in the state is exposed to a degree that, in case of emergency, would render them most dangerous. The recent fire at Pendleton brings this matter home to us even with greater force than the more terrible Denver disaster.

The civilized nations are now discussing the wisdom and propriety of sending an armed force into China to arrest and punish the guilty persons connected

with the killing of the missionaries and destruction of their property. This will no doubt be the only way to bring them to punishment, for the Chinese government is not likely to be intensely interested in the matter. We wonder how the people of Tacoma would have felt to have had a Chinese army encamp in their streets in 1885, seeking the arrest of the persons who looted the Chinese houses and stores there. As we remember the outcome of that outrage, no one was punished, and our government did not seem to interest itself much in the matter. But then, that was a civilized mobbing and looting; the similar work at Kee Cheng was that of heathens. What is that old saying about a difference as to whose bull is gored?

"Sorry" urges THE CHRONICLE, in yesterday's issue, to continue its campaign for better roads. Most heartily do we respond to such a suggestion, and we are gratified that our suggestions heretofore made are appreciated. We desire to avoid riding, or appearing to ride, a hobby. Portland has a road club, which will no doubt exercise a strong influence for better roads. The Dalles cannot have a club of that kind, because it has not the wealth, and our citizens have not leisure to devote to it; but we could have a road club, and such a club as we could maintain would do more toward good roads than all the newspaper talk of THE CHRONICLE, or other papers. We have often called attention to the road from 3-Mile to the brewery hill. Persons who travel it insist that it is the worst part of the road between here and Dufur. This should not be so, and the influence of a road club is needed as to that, as well as to other approaches to the city. A little money, properly expended, would make a permanent, smooth and wide road through Thompson's Addition. Let us have a road club.

Great injustice, oftener than justice, is done by the use of extradition papers between states in the case of permanent residents. It is very well to arrest a fugitive from justice and drag him by force from one state to another; but in the case of one for a long time a permanent resident, to be thus hauled about, without a hearing or a chance for an investigation, often does the greatest wrong.

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This institution will be re-opened for the reception of boarders and day pupils on Monday, Sept. 2, 1895.

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